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FLOOR DEBATE

April 25, 2001 LB 543

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Wickersham. You've heard the closing on AM1654 offered by Senator Wickersham to the committee amendments to LB 543. The question before the body is, shall that amendment be adopted? All in favor vote aye, opposed nay. We're voting on the Wickersham amendment to the committee amendments to LB 543. Have you all voted who care to? Have you all voted who care to? Record, please, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 12 ayes, 28 nays, Mr. President, on the amendment.

SENATOR CUDABACK: The amendment was not successful. Mr. Clerk, next item.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Chambers would move to amend with FA210. (Legislative Journal page 1651.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: You are recognized to open on your AM210, Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the Legislature. Because of this amendment, I wanted to be sure that those who will oppose it were not having supernatural help in terms of my presentation being drowned out. So I wanted to give that, if it was just an airplane, an opportunity to clear the area of the Capitol. Then I would proceed. Had that thunderation continued, I might would just sit down and withdraw the amendment at this time. Members of the Legislature, let me tell you what this amendment deals with, those three aid programs for students, SSAP, SAP, PEAP. To bring you up to date, oh, the SSAP is a State Scholarship Award Program. The SAP is a Scholarship Assistance Program. The PEAP is the Postsecondary Education Award Program. All three of these programs are open to be raided by the church-affiliated schools. The PEAP program is the exclusive domain of the church-affiliated schools. It is a situation where the Legislature has been prevailed upon to create a closed program for the church-affiliated schools. The other two, the SSAP, the SAP, can also be tapped into by the church schools but the public schools cannot tap into the church school program which is PEAP. The Budget Committee, the Appropriations Committee,